



**U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement**

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News Release

FATHER RETURNED TO CANADA TO FACE ABDUCTION CHARGES

ICE returns Canadian man wanted by RCMP for parental abduction

LAFAYETTE, La.—A fugitive who fled Canada after abducting his two children has been turned over to Canadian authorities by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) deportation agents here.

Rene Gerald Cyr, of Moncton, New Brunswick, was turned over to the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) at Ft. Erie, Ontario late Wednesday afternoon.

Police in Louisiana arrested Cyr in early February for violations unrelated to the parental abduction of his two children. During the course of the investigation, the Acadia Parish Sheriff's Office determined the man was wanted in Canada. Canadian authorities issued an arrest warrant for not returning his two minor children to the custody of their mother. According to information provided by Canadian authorities Cyr was required to return the children under the terms of a court order.

The RCMP posted Cyr's picture and physical description on their official website.

Cyr entered the United States through the Houlton, Maine, port-of-entry Dec. 30. He eventually traveled to Louisiana where he and his children were discovered illegally living in a tent on private property. After Cyr was arrested, Sheriff's deputies notified Canadian authorities. The mother traveled to Louisiana, took custody of her children, and returned to Canada.

The Sheriff's Department turned Cyr over to ICE Feb. 28, and he was offered a chance to return voluntarily to Canada. Deportation officers from the ICE New Orleans field office escorted Cyr to Buffalo. With assistance from the ICE Buffalo field office, Cyr was turned over to the RCMP at the Peace Bridge.

Cyr could have faced charges under the Immigration and Nationality Act. ICE had the authority to formally deport him, which would have barred him from legally reentering the U.S. for 10 years. However, that would have delayed his return to Canada.

ICE New Orleans Field Office Director Craig Robinson said, “It was satisfying to our deportation team to assist Canadian authorities in returning a man accused of abducting his children. Allowing the individual to voluntarily return to Canada under escort also helps Canadian authorities resolve the matter in a timely manner,” Robinson concluded.

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement is committed to protecting children. In cases of custodial interference, ICE works to re-unite children with the custodial parent as quickly as possible and in returning individuals accused of abduction to the proper jurisdiction so that the charges can be resolved.

ICE

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement was established in March 2003 as the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security. ICE is comprised of five integrated divisions that form a 21st century law enforcement agency with broad responsibilities for a number of key homeland security priorities.